

## REMARKS

Claims 21-40 are pending in this application. Claims 1-20 have been canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the underlying subject matter. Claims 21-40 are new. No new matter has been added.

In view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw all outstanding grounds of rejection. Applicants respectfully request allowance of the application.

The Office Action rejects under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) claims 1-20 as being anticipated by Wood, U.S. Patent No. 6,405,248 (hereinafter *Wood*).

Applicants have canceled claims 1-20 without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants respectfully submit that the rejections of claims 1-20 based on *Wood* are moot and request that these rejections be withdrawn.

Applicants respectfully submit that new claims 21-40 are allowable over the applied art. Support for new claims 21-40 can be found at, for example, Figures 6 to 13 and page 8, beginning at line 26 to page 12, line 26.

Applicants respectfully submit that *Wood* does not teach or suggest, at least, “identifying a link directly coupling a host to a first port of a node; identifying an intermediate connection which indirectly couples the host to an intermediate node, wherein the intermediate node is not aware that the node exists; and generating a new tuple identifying a relationship between the node and the intermediate node based on the identified intermediate connection and the direct link, wherein the new tuple indicates that the node is directly coupled to the intermediate node” as recited, among other features, in new independent claim 21.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that new independent claim 21 is in condition for allowance over *Wood* for at least these reasons.

Applicants respectfully submit that *Wood* does not teach or suggest, at least, “a first node directly coupled to a host via a first port; an intermediate node indirectly coupled to the host via an intermediate connection, wherein the intermediate node is not aware that the first node exists; and a tuple manager to generate a new tuple identifying a relationship between the first node and the intermediate node based on the intermediate connection and the direct link, wherein the new tuple indicates that the first node is directly coupled to the intermediate node” as recited, among other features, in new independent claim 32.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that new independent claim 32 is in condition for allowance over *Wood* for at least these reasons.

New claims 22-31 depend from new independent claim 21 and new claims 33-40 depend from new independent claim 32. Therefore, claims 22-31 and 33-40 are in condition for allowance for at least the reasons stated above with respect to the claim from which they depend and the additional features they recite.

### CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants believe that all of the objections and rejections against this application have been fully addressed and that the application is now in condition for allowance. Therefore, withdrawal of the outstanding objections and rejections and a notice of allowance for the application is respectfully requested.

It is believed that no extensions of time or fees are required, beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to Hewlett-Packard Development Company's deposit account no. 08-2025.

If the Examiner believes that a personal or telephonic interview would be of value in expediting the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to telephone the undersigned counsel to arrange for such a conference.

Respectfully submitted,



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